

## BRINGING GAS 800 MILES.

**CAPITALISTS' Scheme for Illuminating the Cities of the East.**

"Are you the man who proposes to bring gas from the Pennsylvania coal regions to New York city?" Mr. John Hoey of the Adams Express Company was asked.

"Well, I don't propose to do it all by myself," he replied. "It takes about \$25,000,000 capital, and I do not always carry that amount of money about my clothes. There has been a good deal of talk about the scheme, but I could not tell you much about the details. Mr. J. W. Baker is the man you ought to see."

Mr. Baker was found willing to give information on the new project. He said: "The idea of bringing gas from the Pennsylvania coal fields to this city is by no means new. I have been thinking it over for twenty years. It was a favorite project with the venerable Simon Cameron. We have organized a company under the laws of New Jersey, called 'The Gas Light Transportation Company.' The capital is \$25,000,000, but the stock is not yet on the market. The officers are: Mr. Nelson Tapen, City Chamberlain; President; J. C. Lucas, Vice-President of the Keystone National Bank of Philadelphia; Vice-President; Isaiah G. Babcock, treasurer of the Adams Express Company; treasurer. The directors are John Hoey, Senator John R. McPherson, Henry D. Moore of Philadelphia, and Frederick E. Gilbert.

"We are at present selecting appropriate coal lands on which to fix our works. The idea is to make gas in the same way that it is made in ordinary gas works out of bituminous coal. A false report has been circulated that we intend to make gas from anthracite coal. We never had any such idea. A very large amount of property has been offered to us, and a competent committee is now engaged in making the requisite investigations. We wish to put our gas works in a region where the coal is not likely to be exhausted within seven years. We propose to start work when we will manufacture 10,000,000 feet of gas per day. This would require 1,400,000 tons of coal annually. The coal can be bought at the mines for 55 cents per ton, but the gas companies pay \$1.02 per ton for it. They save something by the sale of coke, tar, and ammonical liquor, so that their cost per ton is \$3.14 per ton, or \$32 cents a thousand feet of gas manufactured. One great saving will be in the cost of coal and in labor.

"What do you estimate will be the saving?" "We calculate the saving in cost of coal at \$1.02 per ton, and in the cost of gas at \$3.14 per ton, so that we save \$2.12 per ton.

"How about the cost of pumping gas?" "We make no allowance for the cost of pumping gas, as we have no experience with ourselves with estimates for the sale of coke, we may allow the coke to offset the pumping."

"Will there be any difficulty in pumping gas through a long pipe?" "We do not know how there can be. It is well known that oil is pumped through hundred of miles of pipe, and we have no reason to suppose our work will be any more difficult than the work done near the furthest point from which oil is pumped. Our pipes need not be stronger than oil pipes. We shall simply lay them in a series of several short lengths, each cast iron, two by four inches, in an ad-

centage, and as we watch these creatures slithering and crawling under the winter's blast, we shall feel it is well worth the trouble to build itself into a living laugh."

"Of the camel, when the two bears were kept in an enclosure with a lion, the bear thought the camel was a piece of the lion in his cage. He was after another a transited creature, and he bobbed his head up and down with a vigor that made the lion tremble with fear. In his fury he seemed to be sum chambering around the North Pole, and watching the ice break up, and when he kicked his tips in a cruelty singular manner, and when the marines cut his hind legs down, and when he was sent to the Devil's Hole, he brought upon a piece of the lion in his cage."

He was after another a transited creature, and he bobbed his head up and down with a vigor that made the lion tremble with fear.

"What capital would be required to put up the requisite works?"

"The capital to enter the plant at \$15,000,000, twenty-five millions in stock and twenty millions in bonds. If we pay six percent interest on the bonds, we have a balance which will be divided on the capital stock of 14.17 percent."

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